

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6606

BILL NUMBER: HB 1668

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 13, 2002

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Merit Board Member Conflicts of Interest.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Cherry

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill provides that a member of the sheriff's merit board forfeits the member's membership if the member has a financial interest in a transaction between: (1) the sheriff's department or an employee of the sheriff's department; and (2) any person.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: This bill provides that if a conflict of financial interest occurs between a sheriff's merit board member and a person involving property or services, the merit board member is to forfeit his or her membership on the board.

The bill also provides that a member who is found in violation and forfeits his or her membership is not precluded from any criminal penalty for committing bribery, conflict of interest, or official misconduct, the penalties for which are a Class C felony, a Class D felony, and a Class A misdemeanor, respectively. The fiscal impact of this bill is dependent on local action.

Background: Under current law, the fiscal body of each county is required to establish (by ordinance) a sheriff's merit board. Merit boards consist of five members, three of whom are appointed by the county sheriff, and two are elected by a majority vote of the county police force.

Appointments last for four years or for the remainder of an unexpired term. Not more than two members appointed by the county sheriff, nor more than one of the members elected by majority vote can be of the same political party. Merit boards are required to hold regular monthly meetings.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: County Sheriff Merit Boards.

Information Sources:

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